BOROUGH OF BRACKLEY

HEALTH
DEPT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1950

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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for for the Year 1950.

To The Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors
of the Borough of Brackley.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report together with that of your Sanitary Inspector for the year 1950.

The Vital Statistics are satisfactory and compare favourably with those for England and Wales Infectious diseases have been few and no case of Poliomyelitis has been recorded.

As the Council have now taken over the outdoor swimming bath I will be pleased when a suitable chlorination and filtration plant is installed which I hope will be in the near future

Housing is progressing, but as everywhere there is still a waiting list and one hopes the day is not far distant when all will be re-housed who are now living in sub-standard conditions, When this is achieved one of the problems of Public Health will be solved.

I wish to express my thanks to the Council and the Officers for all the help they have given me during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant

Arthur Lucas. L.R.C.P.,L.R.C.S.,D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Committee, December 1950.

The Worshipful The Mayor, Councillor Wilfred Ernest Harris
Alderman C. Pether, Chairman, Alderman E.F.Humphries,
Alderman H.E.Ford, Councillor W.A.Aldridge,
Councillor C.J.Rose, Councillor Mrs. P.A.Simons,
Councillor H.J.Foot, Councillor L.S.Coles.
Councillor G.C.Hodges.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health: Arthur Lucas, L.R.C.P.,L.R.C.S.,D.P.H.
Also holds appointments of:
Medical Officer of Health for the Brackley Rural District,
Medical Officer of Health for Daventry Borough
Medical Officer of Health for Daventry Rural District,
Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, Northants County Council and Assistant County School Medical Officer Northants County Council.

Sanitary Inspector: C. Morgan, M.S.I.A., who also holds the appointment of Borough Surveyor.

Summary of Vital Statistics,1950

Area of Borough, (acres)	1685
Population	2606
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950)	794
Rateable Value of Borough	£13,038
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£51

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

Live Births:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate.	29	22	51
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Totals	30	23	53

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... 20.3

Still-births: No still-births were recorded during the year.

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths (all causes)...	14	23	37

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population... 14.2

Deaths from Puerperal causes:-

Puerperal Sepsis	nil
Other Puerperal causes	nil

Infant Mortality:

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths of infants under one year...	1	1	2

Death-rate of infants under one year:

All infants per 1,000 live births... ... 37.7

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	3
Deaths from Measles	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough...	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	nil
Deaths from pregnancy, child-birth or abortion..	nil

Area: There has been no change in the area of the Borough which remains at 1685 acres.

Population: The resident mid-year population as estimated by the Registrar-General was 2,606 and the Vital Statistics are based on this figure. The population for 1949 was estimated at 2,598. The natural increase in population, that is, the increase of births over deaths was 16 persons.

Deaths: The total number of deaths assigned to the Borough by the Registrar-General after adjusting for inward and outward transferable deaths was 37. The death-rate based on the mid-year estimated population was 14.2 as compared with 12.01 for the Administrative County and 11.60 for England and Wales.

A table giving the list of the causes of death classified under the thirty-six causes is given on page 3.

Births: The number of births which occurred during the year under review was 53. This gives a birth-rate of 20.34 as compared with 15.71 for the County and 15.80 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality:- The number of infants under one year of age who died during the year was 2, (1 male and 1 female). This gives an infant mortality rate of 37.7 as compared with 29.53 for the County and 29.80 for England and Wales.

Maternal Mortality: It is gratifying to record that no death occurred from causes associated with child-birth.

A table showing the birth-rate, death-rate and infant mortality rate for the Borough, the administrative County of Northamptonshire and England and Wales for the past five years is given on page 4.

Registered Causes of Death

Causes	Male	Female	Total
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory... ...	1	-	1
2 Tuberculosis, other forms... ...	-	-	-
3 Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4 Diphtheria	-	-	-
5 Whooping Cough..	-	-	-
6 Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7 Acute Poliomyelitis...	-	-	-
8 Measles...	-	-	-
9 Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	-	-	-
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-	-
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast.. ...	-	1	1
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus.. ...	-	-	-
14 Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	-	2
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16 Diabetes..	-	-	-
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	3	4
18 Coronary disease, angina	2	2	4
19 Hypertension with heart disease...	-	1	1
20 Other heart disease...	1	8	9
21 Other circulatory disease... ...	-	2	2
22 Influenza	-	-	-
23 Pneumonia	1	-	1
24 Bronchitis	-	1	1
25 Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26 Ulcer of stomach & duodenum ...	1	-	1
27 Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea..	-	-	-
28 Nephritis & nephrosis	-	-	-
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30 Pregancy, childbirth, abortion ...	-	-	-
31 Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32 Other defined & ill-defined diseases	4	4	8
33 Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34 All other accidents...	-	1	1
35 Suicide...	-	-	-
36 Homicide & operations of war ...	-	-	-
All causes	14	23	37

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Year	BIRTH-RATE			DEATH-RATE			INFANT MORTALITY RATE		
	Brackley Borough	Northampton-shire	England & Wales	Brackley Borough	Northampton-shire	England & Wales	Brackley Borough	Northampton-shire	England & Wales
1946	19.47	19.17	19.10	12.83	12.00	11.50	nil	36.87	43.00
1947	23.57	20.22	20.5	18.24	12.43	12.00	94.3	35.07	41.00
1948	14.3	17.45	17.90	8.9	11.00	10.8	nil	31.67	34.00
1949	15.47	16.19	15.7	13.85	12.07	11.7	28.5	33.78	32.00
1950	20.34	15.74	15.8	14.2	12.01	11.60	37.7	29.53	29.8

SECTION B

GENERAL INSPECTION OF HEALTH SERVICE.

Laboratory Facilities: All pathological specimens and samples of water are sent for examination to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Oxford

Ambulance Service. Infectious disease cases are removed if necessary to the Isolation Hospital at Northampton.

For the removal to Hospital of surgical and non-infectious cases the St. John Ambulance Brigade Service is available and is maintained under contract with the Hospital authorities. The service which is available by day or night is free and is a great asset to the Area.

Treatment Centres and Clinics: The Infant Welfare Clinic continued to operate during the year under review and sessions are held every second Thursday in each month. Orthopaedic Clinics were held during the year. Ante-natal Clinics are held on the first Wednesday every month.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply: During the year the water supply was sufficient in quantity and of a high bacteriological standard. The supply is from two deep wells with 15 inch bore-holes at the bottom of each. Two submersible electric pumps and an oil pump are used to raise the water to two storage tanks of 180,000 gallons and 90,000 gallons capacity respectively. The supply was not cut off during any part of the year. With the exception of two outlaying farms in the area all premises are connected to the mains.

Samples of water submitted for examination showed that it was of a high bacteriological standard.

Sewage Disposal: The sewage disposal works comprising two filter beds, sedimentation tanks, sludge lagoons and electrical plant for lifting the level of one outfall sewer continued to function satisfactorily. The system of sewers comprise 6", 9", 12" and 15" and with the exception of eighteen houses in outlaying parts of the district which are below the sewer level, all premises are connected to the system.

Rivers and Streams: No complaints were received regarding the pollution of the River Ouse into which the effluent from the sewage disposal works discharges.

Camping Sites: There are no camping sites in the Borough.

Smoke Abatement: No action was found to be necessary in connection with smoke abatement.

Public Cleansing:- House refuse is collected weekly by direct labour using a two-ton truck for the purpose. The refuse tip is far removed from residences and no nuisance was caused; the tip is regularly treated for the destruction of rats.

During the year the Committee lodged an order for a "Bantam" refuse collecting vehicle but it was not delivered by the end of the year.

Swimming Bath: The Public Swimming pool was in use during the year and was filled with water from the Council's mains. As I have previously stated in the Report, I shall be glad to see the installation of a chlorination and filtration plant in the near future.

Summary of Sanitary Inspections.

Number of visits and inspections:-

Visits to Government Slaughter-house...	160
Number of inspections of butchers' shops	18
Number of meat hawkers' vans inspected	1
Number of visits to bakehouses	8
Number of drains tested	15
Number of premises disinfested	1

Housing.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-
   - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)..... 54
   - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... 65
   - (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ... ... -
   - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious as to be unfit for human habitation... ... ... -
   - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation... 25
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-
   Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officer 24
3. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-
   - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1
   - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
     - (a) By owners 1
     - (b) By local authority in default of owners -

During the year 24 new Council houses were completed and occupied bringing the total number completed since the War to 60. The third programme of 40 "Gregory Flats" was commenced during the year but none were completed by the end of 1950.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply: The number of milk retailers in the Borough is 2. Samples of milk taken and submitted for examination by the methylene blue test showed that they were satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 Premises used for the manufacture or preparation of preserved foods were regularly inspected and found to be kept in a cleanly condition.

Meat and Other Foods: The Government Slaughter-house continued to function during the year. The numbers of animals slaughtered were as follows: 720 cattle, 2,018; 417 calves and 71 pigs. Upon inspection meat and offal weighing 5 tons 11 cwts. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. were found to be diseased, unfit for consumption and were voluntarily surrendered. Diseased meat and offal were collected by a reputable merchant for further utilisation.

The following unsound foodstuffs were also voluntarily surrendered during the year:-

Herrings (wet)...	49 lbs.
Cheese	116½ lbs
Tin milk	29 tins
Sardines	4 tins
Tomatoes	1 tin
Salmon (wet)	16 lbs
Veal & Ham Galantine... ...	39 lbs
Beef and Pork Roll	8 lbs
Pork sausages	24 lbs
Danish Pork	26 tins.
Tinned Ham	19½ lbs.

Infectious Disease.

The following cases of infectious disease were reportef during the year:-

Pneumonia...	1
Measles	15
Whooping Cough	10

There was one death from Pneumonia.

Tuberculosis

Two new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were reported during the year. One case of Pulmonary was reported as cured and there was one inward transfer. One death from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred. The number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year is as follows:-

	Males.	Females.	Total
Pulmonary...	2	6	8
Non-Pulmonary	3	1	4
Totals	5	7	12

Scabies.

No case of scabies was reported during the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Three premises were treated for rat infestation by the part-time operator in the employ of the Council. Good results are obtained with sausage rusk and zinc phosphide.